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January 29, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Art Unit 1647

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/518,190; Filed: March 2, 2000
For: **Nucleic Acid Constructs Involved in the Regulation of Protein
Secretion (as amended)**
Inventors: Hesketh *et al.*
Our Ref: 0623.0820001/EKS/PSC

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply to Restriction Requirement and Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
January 29, 2002
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric K. Steffe", written in a cursive style.

Eric K. Steffe
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EKS/PSC/lam
Enclosures

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